



ADMINISTRATION FOR
CHILDREN & FAMILIES
Office of Community Services



CSBG
Community Services Block Grant

**PROJECT
IMPACT**
CSBG Rapid-Cycle Projects

Project Impact is a \$3.7M Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) investment initiative designed to equip selected Community Action Agencies, nonprofits, and public entities in their mission to serve low-income adults and families. Sixteen organizations were awarded rapid-cycle learning grants to respond to the economic and social effects of COVID-19. Models comprise one of five priority areas: (1) adapting service delivery to a physical distancing environment, (2) coordinating with public health and emergency officials to address urgent health and social outcomes, (3) identifying and training for high-demand jobs in the post COVID-19 economy, (4) making structural reforms at the community level, and (5) strengthening individual and family adaptive capacities. Technical Assistance support will ensure rapid start-up and the ability to make real-time adjustments during program development and implementation.

Total Action Against Poverty in Roanoke Valley

The COVID-19 pandemic has been particularly harmful to economically vulnerable families, disproportionately so for Black and Latino families. From February to June 2020, the number of children in families with income below the federal poverty level (FPL) rose by nearly 5 million. As of April 2020, approximately 63 percent of young Black children and 57 percent of young Hispanic children ages five or younger lived in low-income families, defined as 200 percent of the FPL.ⁱ In Roanoke Valley in 2020, 31 percent of households were above the FPL but unable to afford basic household necessities, and 13 percent were under the FPL.ⁱⁱ

Poverty has a negative impact on families and children, leading to issues like poor health outcomes, difficulty functioning in an educational or work setting, damage to the parent-child relationship, and financial instability. One way to reduce child poverty is to create on-the-ground programs using a two-generation model that provides services to children and parents simultaneously.

Whole Family Development Initiative

Overview: Total Action Against Poverty (doing business as Total Action for Progress (TAP)) will expand its Whole Family Development (WFD) Initiative for households in six counties and five cities in Roanoke Valley, Virginia. Using a multigenerational approach, TAP will expand intake and case management services for the whole family to effectively and efficiently move families out of crisis. The project will also expand services to support individuals who cannot access existing TAP services due to federal requirements related to income, prior incarceration, veteran status, or substance use. The project will serve 650 individuals from approximately 282 families using the agency-wide WFD approach and an additional 100 individuals using newly established eligibility and referral processes.

Project Aims:

- Expand the use of the “Whole Family Development” style of service intake, assessment, and case management to capture the needs of the whole family rather than just the needs of individuals
- Provide services to in-crisis or vulnerable individuals and families who are not typically eligible for TAP services

FAST FACTS

Project Title:

Whole Family Development Initiative

Focus Area:

Strengthening individual and family adaptive capacities

Grant Amount:

\$219,424

Location:

Roanoke, VA

Type of Organization:

Community Action Agency

Congressional District:

VA-06

Authorized Official:

Kristen Moses

Entity Website:

www.tapintohope.org

ⁱ Parker, K, Menasce Horowitz, J., & Brown, A. (April 21, 2020). About half of lower-income Americans report household job or wage loss due to COVID-19. Pew Research Center. Retrieved from <https://www.pewresearch.org/social-trends/2020/04/21/about-half-of-lower-income-americans-report-household-job-or-wage-loss-due-to-covid-19/>

ⁱⁱ United Way of Roanoke Valley (October 18, 2021). United Way of Roanoke Valley Annual Report 2019-2020. Retrieved from <https://www.uwrv.org/news/stories/united-way-of-roanoke-valley-annual-report-2019-2020>

COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (CSBG): CSBG is a federal antipoverty block grant that funds the operations of a state-administered network of local entities, including Community Action Agencies (CAAs) and other neighborhood-based organizations. Overseen by the Administration for Children and Families (ACF), Office of Community Services (OCS), CSBG provides vital assistance to states and local communities to reduce poverty, revitalize communities, and empower low-income individuals and families.